

June 15, 2009

The Honorable Max Baucus
Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Baucus:

On behalf of the R&D Credit Coalition, we thank you for your leadership in sponsoring S. 1203, which extends the traditional credit through 2010, increases the Alternative Simplified Credit ("ASC") from 14 percent to 20 percent, and permanently extends the ASC. As you recognize, a vibrant R&D tax credit is a vital engine for our nation's economic growth, competitiveness and prosperity, which is particularly critical at this time given the current state of our economy.

We look forward to working with you and others in Congress and the Obama administration to enact a strengthened multi-year extension of the R&D credit in the next appropriate legislative vehicle. We are confident that a strengthened R&D tax credit will contribute to the creation and preservation of high-wage U.S. research jobs and lead to the development of new innovative technologies and products of the 21st century.

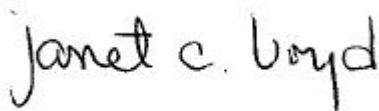
Sincerely,



Bill Sample
Microsoft Corporation
Chair, R&D Credit Coalition



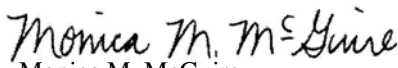
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